DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/2/2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 3/2/2009, with respect to claims 1-6 and 23-30 have been fully considered and are persuasive in conjunction with the Examiner's Amendment below. The rejection of claims 1-6 and 23-30 has been withdrawn.

Response to Amendment

3.   Claims 7-22 have been cancelled.

4.   Claims 1, 4-6 and 23-27 have been amended.

5.   Claim 31 has been added.

6.   Claims 1-6 and 23-31 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7.   In light of Applicant's amendment, the previous 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph

rejection of claims 24-26 have been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

8.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with 5/7/2009 on Michael Rodriguez.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A method for protecting a

computing device from potentially harmful code in a

document, the method comprising:

receiving a data structure representation of the document;

providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful
active content in an editable configuration file, each
definition identifying potentially harmful active content
and specifying an action to be performed on that
potentially harmful active content if that potentially
harmful active content is found in the document;

dynamically editing by a user the editable configuration
file by adding a new definition

parsing the editable configuration file to generate a data
structure representation of the ~~one or more~~ definitions in
the editable configuration file;

comparing the data structure representation of the document
with the data structure representation of the ~~one or more~~
definitions of potentially harmful active content to
identify potentially harmful active content within the
document; and

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modifying the document to render harmless any identified

potentially harmful active content before presenting the

document to the computing device.
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Here ends the Examiner's Amendment to the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

9.   Claims 1-6 and 23-31 are allowed over the prior art for the reasons detailed in

the Applicant's Remarks of 3/2/2009. As mentioned in the interview summary, the newly

added limitation of "dynamically editing by a user the editable configuration file by

adding a new definition" overcomes the prior art of Barber which is silent in regards to

the user selecting and customizing the definitions of potentially malicious document

content.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to WILLIAM S. POWERS whose telephone number is

(571)272-8573. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on 571 272 3811. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/W. S. P./   William S. Powers
Examiner, Art Unit 2434   Examiner
                                                    Art Unit 2434

5/7/2009

/Kambiz Zand/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2434